

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I would just like to take a couple of minutes to support Senator Hoagland's amendment. The amendment that he is placing or he is asking for us to place in law is one that I personally supported years ago as an attorney working on a court case and ultimately the Nebraska Supreme Court did adopt as a legal position that parents were entitled as a matter of law to counsel in certain kinds of juvenile court proceedings. It's my understanding that since that time the legal support for that position has eroded. Obviously, the position, under Senator Hoagland's amendment, would become part of the state law which is where it should be and I think that from that point forward why parents will have enhanced and improved legal rights in juvenile court proceedings. I do support the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Goodrich, please.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, members of the body, would Senator Hoagland yield to a question, please?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Would you respond, Senator Hoagland, please.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Sorry we didn't get a chance to do this privately between the two of us, but what it boils down to is, and specifically in Section 11 that says, you say you give the law enforcement authorities to the...gives law enforcement the authority to place children in the custody of the Department of Social Services in emergency situations. It's Friday night, midnight. The law enforcement people go to the home. They see an emergency situation. They pick up the children and where do they take them?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Now, Senator Goodrich, under the bill here a juvenile can be taken into temporary custody and the officer can deliver him to the custody of the Department of Social Services which will make temporary placement in a least restrictive environment consistent with the best interests of the juvenile as determined by the police officer.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Okay, now where does the police officer take those children at midnight Friday night?